



# WOMEN, MEN & THE WHOLE DAMN THING

## David Leser

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CONTACT: Louise Cornegé T: 02 8425 0140 M: 0417 692 695 E: louise@allenandunwin.com

*'A masterfully nuanced and deeply insightful look at how we arrived – and where to from here – in this post #MeToo world.'* – Lisa Wilkinson

*'Resolutely human. Utterly essential. Wholly unputdownable.'* – Trent Dalton

*'Brilliantly argued, fiercely lucid, there won't be a more vital book this decade.'* –  
Stephanie Dowrick

DAVID LESER WILL BE  
TOURING IN SUPPORT  
OF THE BOOK AND IS  
AVAILABLE FOR  
INTERVIEWS AND  
EVENTS

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In February 2018, the *Good Weekend* cover story by David Leser, 'Women, Men and the Whole Damn Thing', had an extraordinary response, becoming one of the most talked-about and widely praised articles of recent time.

'This is EVERYTHING,' one well-known actress tweeted. 'At this divisive time, this article has illuminated so much for me and I hope it does for others too.' Former politician Richard Jones posted: 'Every man, and I mean every man, needs to read this.'

Both men and women urged David to expand his story. *Women, Men & the Whole Damn Thing* is that book: a brilliant, impassioned, unflinching account of the firestorm of #MeToo, how we got there and where we must go now.

In his essential and incisive investigation, Leser explores the roots of misogyny, its inextricable links to the patriarchy and how history brought us to the #MeToo movement and the wave of incandescent female rage that is sweeping the world.

Crucially, he also interrogates his own psyche, privilege and culpability as he bears witness to the 'collective wound of the world' and asks how we can move towards healing and profound and permanent change.

'My intention in writing this book is not to speak for women about their mistreatment, or to claim to understand – as women understand only too well – how male contempt expresses itself across all walks of life,' says David. 'It is, rather, an attempt to investigate as a writer and a man how murderous male hatred and disrespect rages across the world against billions of women and girls, of all colours, creeds, classes and ages.'

***Women, Men & the Whole Damn Thing* is set to be the water-cooler book of the #MeToo era.**

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83 Alexander Street  
Crows Nest, Sydney  
NSW 2065 Australia  
ABN 79 003 994 278

ph: (61 2) 8425 0100  
fax: (61 2) 9906 2218  
publicity@allenandunwin.com  
www.allenandunwin.com

PO Box 8500  
St Leonards  
NSW 1590 Australia



Credit: Chris Crerar

**David Leser** is an Australian journalist, author and public interviewer. A former Middle East and North American correspondent he has been a journalist for 40 years and become widely known in Australia for his in-depth profiles and stories on social and political issues. He has interviewed everyone from Meryl Streep, Germaine Greer and Ayaan Hirsi Ali to Gina Rinehart, Alan Jones and the Dalai Lama. David is the recipient of numerous awards for his journalism and his memoir *To Begin to Know: Walking in the Shadows of my Father*, was shortlisted for the National Biography Award in 2015.

**More advance praise for *Women, Men & the Whole Damn Thing*:**

***'David Leser has written the book a man needed to write. He has a deep ethical understanding of discrimination against women. He cares about that injustice. But he also cares about how men themselves can be part of the solution. Compassionate, incisive and beautifully written.'* – Professor Catharine Lumby**

***'Staggering in its range and depth. Leser sets out the whole horror story, the shocking scale of centuries of violence to women and girls. But he offers real hope at the same time ... a landmark book.'* – Steve Biddulph**

***'At last, a man and has listened and understood.'* – Jane Caro**

***'I want to hire a plane and air-drop this book onto footy ovals, boardrooms, electoral offices and boys' schools.'* – Benjamin Law**